

"With oil and more than \$40 a barrel and the federal government running a huge deficit, it should take a timeout on filling the stockpile until crude prices come down from record levels. That would relieve pressure on the petroleum market and ameliorate gasoline prices." *Houston Chronicle*, Keep the oil in it, but take a timeout on filling it, May 18, 2004.

"They tell Saudi Arabia to produce more oil. Then they put it into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. It just doesn't make any sense at all." Bill Greehey, CEO of Valero Energy, *Washington Post*, May 18, 2004.

"The Bush administration contributed to the oil price squeeze in several ways, according to industry experts. First, it failed to address the fact that demand for gasoline in the United States was increasing sharply, thanks to ever more gas guzzlers on the road and longer commutes. The administration also continued pumping 120,000 barrels a day of crude into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, making a tight market even tighter." David Ignatius, *Homemade Oil Crisis*, *Washington Post*, May 25, 2004.

"How can the administration rectify its mistakes? It could calm the market by moving away from its emergency-only stance. It could also stop buying oil to add to the strategic reserve. The government has done a good job making sure that the reserve is at its 700-million barrel capacity. But now that we are close to that goal there is no reason to keep buying oil at exorbitant prices." Edward L. Morse and Nawaf Obaid, *The \$40-a-Barrel Mistake*, *New York Times*, May 25, 2004.

"President Bush's decision to fill the reserve after the terror attacks of September 2001 has been one of the factors driving up oil prices in recent months, along with reports that China, which recently surpassed Japan as the second-largest importer of oil, is going ahead with plans to build its own petroleum reserve." Simon Romero, *If Oil Supplies Were Disrupted, Then...* *New York Times*, May 28, 2004.

"The oil price run-up and scarcity of private inventories can be laid squarely at the White House's door. Since Nov. 13, 2001 private companies have been forced to compete for inventories with the government." Steve Hanke, *Oil and Politics*, *Forbes*, August 16, 2004.

Mr. LEVIN. In summary, this amendment directs DOE to use some common sense when buying oil for the SPR. It urges DOE to buy more oil when prices are relatively low and supplies are ample, and less oil when prices are high and supplies are scarce. This approach supports our energy and national security interests and at the same time protects American consumers and businesses. It also protects the taxpayer from excessive costs due to high oil prices.

I again thank the managers and Senators COLLINS and WYDEN for their efforts so that this amendment can be accepted.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business with Senators permitted to speak up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING JUNETEENTH

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this June 19th marked the 140th anniversary of

Juneteenth, the day our Nation finally ended the immoral and heinous institution of slavery.

On June 19th, 1865, three years after President Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation, a quarter million slaves living in Texas learned that they were free from Union General Gordon Granger.

He told the people of Texas:

[T]hat in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer.

Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, marked an end to a sad chapter in our Nation's history but it did not mark the end of racial prejudice in the United States.

The horrors of Jim Crowe, lynching, and rampant discrimination still awaited those freed on Juneteenth. It would take 100 years almost to the day until Congress would finally put an end to political discrimination against African-Americans by passing the historic 1965 Voting Rights Act and completing the legislative program of the civil rights movement.

Juneteenth marked the end of the struggle against slavery and the beginning of the long struggle for civil rights.

For all Americans Juneteenth is a time to celebrate freedom: to reflect on it with picnics, concerts, festivals, seminars, and celebrations. It is a time of joy and a time to remember the achievements of African-Americans around our Nation.

Juneteenth should also be a time to celebrate and remember the men and women who brought us freedom and equality: The brave Union soldiers who fought "to make men free;" the civil rights pioneers who began a struggle they would not see to its end; and the great, historic generation of civil rights leaders who helped America "live out the true meaning of its creed" and brought legal equality to all Americans.

In commemoration of Juneteenth, I urge my colleagues to reflect on our freedom, acknowledge the legacy of slavery, and celebrate the achievements of the civil rights movement.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, on Saturday, June 18, 2005, Americans honored the 140th anniversary of Juneteenth, the oldest known celebration commemorating the abolition of slavery in the United States. This day celebrates African American freedom and gives us a chance to reflect upon our Nation's history, our present, and our hope for the future.

On June 19, 1865, MG Gordon Granger arrived in Texas to proclaim emancipation to Texas slaves. Though President Lincoln had delivered his Emancipation Proclamation more than 2 years earlier, this date marks the first time slaves in Texas and other surrounding

States learned of their liberation. General Granger stated, "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer." The term "Juneteenth" is derived from a combination of the words "June" and "nineteenth", referring to the official date of the Texas announcement, although the holiday is now celebrated on the third Saturday of June.

Following their emancipation, African Americans continued to confront immense hardships in the face of economic, social, and political disfranchisement imposed by a brutally repressive social system. In States such as Arkansas, the Jim Crow order relied on institutionalized racism to maintain the social dominance of Whites and stifle the opportunity that Blacks desired and deserved. We recently revisited the horrors of mob violence, another tool in the repression of Blacks, as the Senate officially apologized for never taking Federal action against lynching over the decades of its practice.

Due to the prolonged struggle for freedom and equality for Black Americans, we recognize Juneteenth as both a victory over slavery and as a starting point in the ongoing fight for justice in America. Thanks to the courage and dedication of the participants in the civil rights movement, our Nation has progressed by leaps and bounds from the days of sharecropping, segregated classrooms, Ku Klux Klan violence, and lynchings. However, we must remain vigilant as we strive to ensure that every American is provided an equal opportunity to succeed now and in the future.

These were the ideas that people in Arkansas and all across our country reflected upon as they celebrated Juneteenth on Saturday. I am humbled as I reflect upon Juneteenth and pay tribute to the countless contributions and advancements African Americans have made in our country throughout history. Furthermore, I encourage all Americans to join me in remembering the struggles for dignity and racial equality in America and to recommit to fighting for equality in our schools, workplaces and in our communities. And in doing so, let us strive for the strength of will and courage that were exemplified by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as he shared this simple truth with the world: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK HENRY HUGHES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I honor a young and accomplished musician from my home State of Kentucky. Patrick Henry Hughes, a